European Communities Commentary

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The European patent system

by R. Bowen, Assistant Comptroller, Patent Office

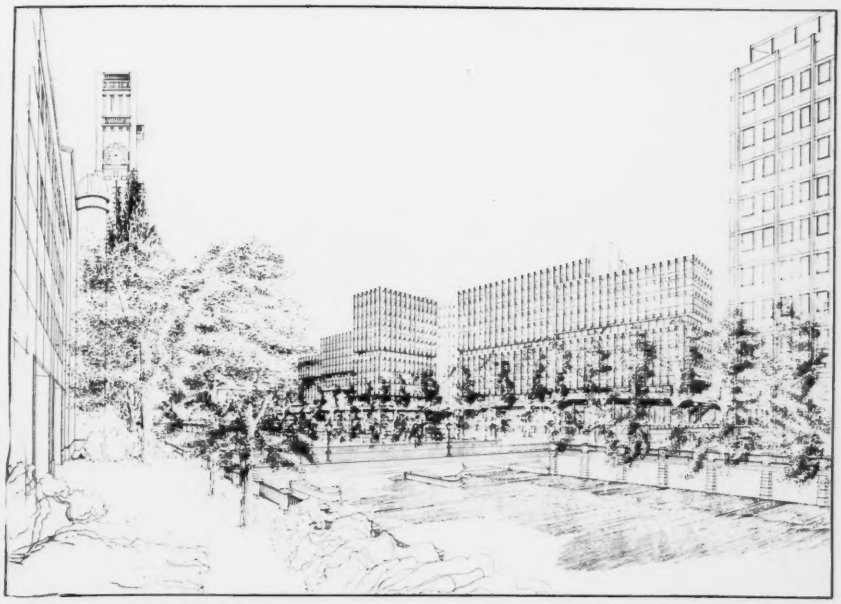
October 5, 1973, was a day of special significance in the rather esoteric world of patents. On that day, after 4 weeks of hard negotiation at the final conference held in the ancient building of the Bavarian State Parliament in Munich, 14 out of the 21 participating Western European countries signed the European Patent Convention. The United Kingdom and its Common Market partners were among the signatories. Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Greece and Liechtenstein also signed, and it seems likely that Austria and Finland will sign before very long.

In this article the author brings the reader up to date with events and discusses the implications of the Convention.

The beginnings

Some of those concerned with the deliberations at Munich have had to wait a long while for the completion of their efforts. This ambitious venture began for them in the late 1950's when the Six decided that steps should be taken to remove the barriers to trade across frontiers which were created by national patents. Their answer was to provide for a single patent, the Community Patent, which would be governed by one law and would have uniform effect throughout the Common Market.

Their first draft of a treaty was published in 1962. This was a first attempt to define a patent system covering the territories of many countries and it was generally regarded in the United Kingdom and elsewhere as a fine achievement. After consulting industry and all the other British interests concerned with patents, the government of the day expressed to the Six its considerable interest in the draft Convention, but since the United Kingdom was not yet a member of the Rome Treaty there was no opportunity to participate in the further development of the draft text. However, not much further work was done for, in 1965, the internal political difficulties which were then bothering the Six led to the suspension of negotiations on the draft.



Architect's drawing of the European Patent Office headquarters to be built in Munich.

The Six returned to the task in 1969, but this time they decided to operate on a quite different basis. They decided in effect to split the 1962 draft into roughly two parts. They realised that one part, concerning the law and practice leading to the grant of a European patent, and the setting up of a European Patent Office to do the granting, was of considerable interest not only to themselves but also to other European countries. Several of these countries, including the United Kingdom, were therefore invited in 1969 to participate in the development of this part. By 1972, no less than 21 countries were involved in this work

which has now resulted in the signing of the European Patent Convention at Munich.

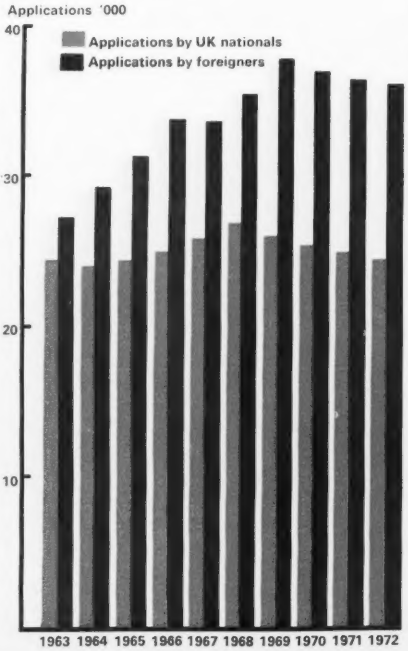
The work on developing the other part of the first draft of 1962 was however deliberately restricted to the Six. This is because it concerns the law applicable after grant of a European patent and regulating its economic effects, a matter which is essentially of interest only in the context of an economic union. At the invitation of the original EEC States, the United Kingdom, Ireland and Denmark joined in the negotiations shortly before they became members of the European Economic Community and next May the final Conference on the Convention for the European Patent for the Common Market (conveniently referred to as the 'Community Patent Convention') is to be held in Luxembourg. The present intention of the Nine States is to bring the two Conventions into force at the same time.

The European Patent Convention

The European Patent Convention provides for the setting up of a European Patent Office, which will grant, on the basis of a single application, a European patent having the effect of a national patent in all the member countries in which the applicant desires to have patent protection. There can be no doubt that this Convention constitutes a large stride forward, an advance in European co-operation with considerable legal, economic, and political significance. The growth of international trade since the war and the interpenetration particularly of European markets by different sectors of industry has necessarily enhanced the need to obtain patent protection abroad. This, however, is a complicated and expensive business. To obtain protection in, say, the United Kingdom, France, Germany and the Netherlands requires the filing and prosecution of a separate application in each country. This means coping with four different languages. It involves grappling with four different laws and operating under four different procedures. If patents are required in other countries as well, clearly the problem is magnified. The European Patent Convention sweeps away these difficulties; one application is all that is needed and this can be processed to grant before the European Patent Office in one language (English, French or German as preferred) and in accordance with one law and one procedure. It seems evident that this should be of enormous benefit to industry and inventors from the United Kingdom and indeed from many other countries, since the European patent can be obtained even by nationals or residents of non-member countries.

Since it defines the law and procedure to be followed by the European Patent Office, the European Patent Convention is necessarily a long and complicated document. A European patent application is to be filed at the European Patent Office or at the national Patent Office of a member country; the national law of a member country may, for reasons of its national security, make the latter alternative obligatory but, even when security is not involved, filing at the national Patent Office may be permitted and, as a convenience to British patent agents and industry, we certainly intend to allow the British Patent Office in London to be used for this purpose. After filing, the application is subjected to a formalities check, mainly to ensure that the documents submitted satisfy the requirements of publication by modern reproduction methods. In parallel with this, a search is carried out to discover prior publications which affect the novelty or obviousness of the invention defined in the application. Shortly afterwards, the application, together with the search report, is published and so the long delay, which is customary now in national patent systems, before the contents of patent specifications are disclosed to the public, is avoided to the advantage of industry in general (including of course the applicant's competitors).

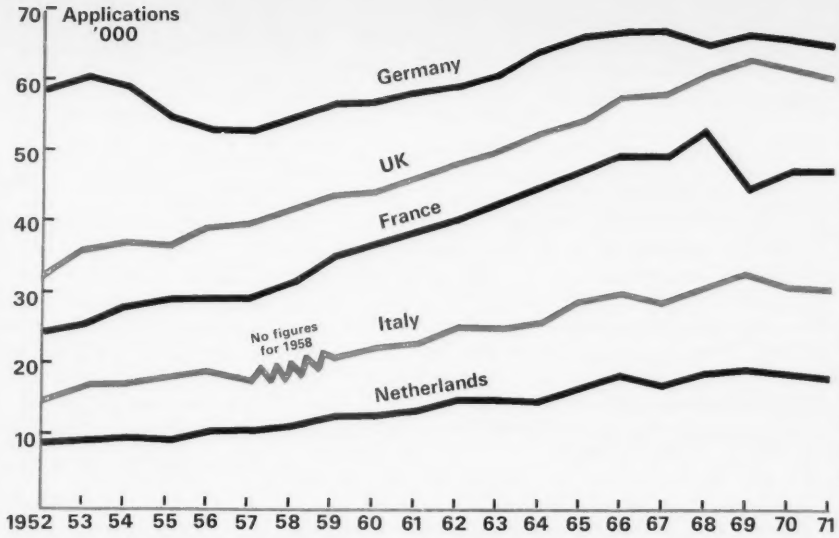
Patent applications filed in the United Kingdom over the years 1963-1972.



Once he has received the search report, the applicant is in a position to decide in the light of it whether to pursue his application further. If he spares further expense and does nothing, then that is the end of the matter; the application is considered as withdrawn and naturally the applicant obtains no rights, though his published application will of course be effective as prior art against later applications in respect of the same subject-matter.

Assuming however that the applicant wishes to proceed, he must file a request for examination; this may be done at any time up to six months after publication of the search report and will lead to the application being considered within the European Patent Office to see that it satisfies all the many legal requirements laid down in the Convention. In particular, the European Patent Office will examine the application in order to determine whether the subject-matter disclosed constitutes a patentable invention and, if so, whether, having regard to the prior art referred to in the search report, the 'invention' has novelty and involves an inventive step over what is already known. Before any decision is taken, the applicant will have the opportunity to submit amendments and to discuss with the examiner concerned any difficulties which arise. If the examiner refuses to grant a patent, the applicant may appeal to a Board of Appeal, the independence of whose members is safeguarded by the terms of the Convention, and, in the really important cases, it is possible for the appeal to be taken further to an Enlarged Board of Appeal.

Following the grant of a European patent it will in general have the effect of, and be subject to the same conditions as, a national patent in all the member countries in which the applicant has requested patent protection. There are, however, some very important exceptions to this. The European patent granted for the EEC States will be treated as a single patent, called the Community Patent, which will be subject to the law prescribed by the Convention to be concluded next May. Secondly, the European patent for each country will have a uniform term of 20 years, reckoned from the date of filing of the European application. Thirdly, by filing a notice within nine months following grant, a competitor may, by one action taken in the European Patent Office, oppose on grounds laid down in the Convention the grant of the patent for all the countries covered by it. Finally, the Convention provides that the patent may at any time during its life be revoked in any country but only on certain grounds as specified in the



Patent applications filed in France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom over the years 1952-1971. The UK figures relate to applications accompanied by complete specifications and to those accompanied by provisional specifications.

Convention; the Community patent will be revokable on these grounds for the whole of the Common Market by the European Patent Office.

So much for the details of the Convention. In many respects, it is a compromise between different national viewpoints but, taken as a whole, the European System for the Grant of Patents is accepted by industry and the patent profession in the United Kingdom and other countries as being a generally sound and workable scheme. The scheme in all its essential aspects is largely compatible with the recommendations made by the Banks Committee (Cmnd 4407) for a new British patent law.

The European Patent Office

The European Patent Office will have its headquarters at Munich and the examination of European applications will be concentrated there. A branch of the Office will be at The Hague and this branch will be formed by absorbing the existing and widely-known search organisation, the International Patent Institute; the branch will carry out the search and the initial examination as to formalities and will be assisted in its search work by the 50 or so searchers at present in the Berlin annex of the German Patent Office.

The negotiating countries have plumped for a centralised examination system in the hope of ensuring uniformity of treatment of applications and it is perhaps not surprising that this has caused some misgivings, especially in the United Kingdom. The trouble is that English language applications will predominate. They are expected to account for some 60 per cent of all European applications, and quite possibly even more. The big worry that has been voiced is whether Munich, fine city though it is, really is the right place to locate a predominately English language operation. The claims constitute the most important element of any patent specification since they define the nature and extent of the monopoly conferred by the patent. During the examination process before grant, the significance of the wording employed in the claims therefore needs to be properly appreciated. In addition of course the proceedings, which very frequently involve correspondence and interviews between examiners and applicants or their patent agents, need to be conducted in a smooth-running and efficient manner. It is obvious therefore that the examiners who are to deal with the expected large number of English language applications will require a high degree of competence in the English language. The big question is whether such people in sufficient numbers are going to be found in the headquarters of the European Patent Office in Munich.

Because of the expected high percentage of English language applications, there was a strong technical case (quite apart from natural preferences in this country) for the European Patent Office, or at least a permanent branch, to have been located in London. A bid was in fact made for London but, since the United Kingdom did not accede to the Rome Treaty until January 1972, the bid was necessarily delayed and it was made too late to have any impact on the many countries who were, it seems, by then committed to Munich. The idea of organising the examining work in branch offices, by utilising existing resources and facilities, was advanced early in the negotiations. But it never found favour with the other countries who were convinced that it would make uniformity of treatment of all European patent applications impossible to achieve and that it would create serious organisational difficulties. However, even if either of these moves had succeeded, it would not have solved the problem of the English language applications since the European Patent Office must by general consent be staffed on a multi-national basis independent of its location. There is no prospect, therefore, of all English language applications being examined by examiners having English as their mother tongue.

One can only speculate as to how the new European Patent System, as now agreed, will work out. It has many attractions and I am sure that the United Kingdom and the other countries will do everything they can to operate it successfully as now planned. If, despite this, the centralisation idea does not work out satisfactorily, as for example if the European Patent Office at Munich finds it is unable to cope properly with English language applications for lack of staff, the governing body of the European Patent Office (the Administrative Council, on which the United Kingdom and the other countries will be represented) has ample power to deal with the situation before it gets out of hand. In such circumstances, it can conclude working agreements with national offices under which examination or search work may be transferred to those offices. General agreement on this was reached, albeit with some difficulty, at the Munich Conference; it is a welcome advance which should allay some fears. Before Munich, the only prospect of remedying a situation such as I have described lay in a revision of the Convention, involving of course further negotiations and the need for ratification of the amended Convention by sufficient countries before it became effective. This would necessarily have taken some time.

The present hope is to open the European Patent Office for the receipt of European patent applications in 1977, but keeping to this timetable depends of course on a sufficient number of countries being in a position to ratify in time. It is clear that the will to move swiftly

does exist in many of the countries which are eligible to become members, but no one can foresee what delays in ratification procedures will be incurred by crowded legislative programmes.

The national patent offices

The European Patent Office will build up in accordance with a four year plan. As it builds up, it is inevitable that the national patent offices in Europe will contract—the full impact is likely to be felt in the mid-1980's. It is of course one of the objectives of the Convention to remove the economic nonsense involved in highly qualified and expensive science graduates in the different examining patent offices doing the same job, though in different ways, in respect of separate applications for patents for the same invention. Achievement of this aim will doubtless be a painful operation; there are bound to be many very awkward problems of adjustment to the changed situation which the new European system, if well received, will bring about.

The Convention provides some relief. The main difficulties arise with a large national office, like ours in London, which operates in one of the official languages of the European Patent Office. With the United Kingdom Office very much in mind, it has therefore been agreed that the governing body of the European Patent Office may entrust examination work to national offices on an agency basis for a period of 15 years from the opening of the European Patent Office—we may be entrusted with such work on up to one-third of the European applications filed. This is felt not to be a breach of the centralisation principle, likely to result in the lack of uniformity of standards which most countries have firmly resolved to avoid, since the final decision on any application is reserved for the examining staff in Munich. We regard this concession as being of much value. It will certainly help the London Office to adjust and it will be a great convenience also to the British patent profession and to British industry. In addition, it should increase the British influence on the development of the new system during the important, formative years. Obviously the London Office will reduce in size as the Munich Office grows, but it will still have a useful role to play at the reduced level and there are no plans to close it. The transitional period of 15 years is long enough to determine whether the Munich Office can go it alone successfully and it should be possible to control the run-down in London so that our national office retains the capability to take on further work if the hopes for success at Munich unfortunately turn out to have been unfounded.

Naturally, the Convention does not provide relief solely for the British Patent Office during the transitional period. The patent offices in other countries will also have their troubles and those which also examine in one of the languages of the European Patent Office may also be entrusted with agency work. The Austrian Patent Office has over 100 examiners and they may get examination work on some of the European applications filed in the German language; that Office may also be given some search work if this does not interfere with the proper functioning of the European Patent Office itself. The Italians have negotiated an agreement with the International Patent Institute for the creation of a searching sub-Office in Rome and, when the Institute is merged with the European Patent Office, the Rome sub-Office (if by then it exists) will go with it. This sub-Office, together with the national patent offices of countries (particularly the Scandinavian countries) whose language differs from those to be used in the European Patent Office, also receive some assistance. The Convention authorises them to search, among documentation at their disposal and in their language, European applications filed by their nationals or residents; it is really a matter between the people concerned and their respective governments whether this authorisation is made effective. In addition, until such time as the search carried out by the European Patent Office extends to such documentation, these offices may carry out searches in such documentation on any European application filed by any applicant, but this is to be at the option of the applicant and at his expense and it will be of much interest to discover how many applicants do indeed use this facility.

The Munich Conference is now past history. Much needs to be done before the European Patent Office opens to put flesh and blood on the skeleton of the Convention. This preparatory organisational work will be extensive and demanding. It is to begin in January and will carry on more or less continuously for the next few years. For the Community States, the aims which the original Six set out to realise so long ago are very near to achievement.

Reception in honour of ESC members

The Economic and Social Committee is one of the three European Community 'consultative' bodies set up under the Treaties. Its 144 members, representing various categories of economic and social activity within the Community, are nominated by the Governments of the Member States and appointed by the Council of Ministers. Its function is to consider the proposals which the Commission submits to the Council, and to provide the Council with its views. This it does through its various specialised sections.

Mr. John Davies, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, recently held a reception at Admiralty House in honour of the British members of the Committee. In the picture (above, left) he is seen chatting to Mrs. June Evans and Mr. C. A. C. Henniker-Heaton—both Committee members. Mrs. Evans belongs to the sections of the Committee dealing with agriculture; industry, trade, services and craft; and environment, public health and consumption. Mr. Henniker-Heaton specialises in economic and financial questions, social questions and regional development.

Shipping and the enlarged EEC

by Shipping Policy Division, DTI

The 'EEC' fleet

One of the less well publicised effects of the enlargement of the European Economic Community has been the doubling in size of the combined merchant fleets of the Member States. In 1972 the total tonnage of the combined fleets registered in the Six was approximately 29 million gross tons, which represented some 11 per cent of the total world fleet. The addition of the very substantial UK-registered fleet of 28 million gross tons, together with about 4 million gross tons brought into the Community by Denmark and the Irish Republic, has raised the total gross tonnage registered in EEC countries to 61 million gross tons—representing some 24 per cent of the total world gross tonnage. Thus the EEC countries have at their disposal perhaps the most significant combined merchant fleet in the world, if one leaves out of account 'flag of convenience' countries. (The Norwegian fleet, had Norway decided to join the Community, would have added a further substantial figure of 23 million gross tons.)

Despite the size of the 'EEC' fleet there is at present no common policy on sea transport. Although there is provision in Article 84(2) of the Treaty of Rome for making common rules applicable to sea transport, the Six did not consider it necessary to pursue this. Most of their tonnage was engaged in trade with countries outside the Community anyway. And, of course, for a Community consisting entirely of Continental European countries, there were many more urgent problems of land transport to deal with first. In the enlarged Community, despite the fact that two of the three new members are separated from the Continental members by sea, these considerations still very largely apply. We therefore see no need for early activation of Article 84(2) to create common rules applicable to shipping.

Diversity of fleets and shipping interests

The merchant fleets of the EEC countries vary considerably in size and composition. Our own fleet of 28 million gross tons, which is in fact the third largest in the world, following Japan and Liberia, is divided in roughly equal proportions between tankers and other vessels, but in the latter category there is a predominance of bulk carriers and of cargo liners (ie, vessels carrying cargo on a definite route on fixed schedules). The next largest fleet in the Community, that of the Federal Republic of Germany (8.2 million gross tons), consists mainly of vessels other than tankers. France, Italy, the Netherlands and Denmark have sizeable fleets of both tankers and non-tankers, but the fleets of Belgium and the Republic of Ireland are small.

Similarly, the shipping interests of the Member States also vary. With one of the world's largest fleets of general cargo ships, the UK is heavily engaged not only in direct trades with UK ports but also in the so-called 'cross trades'—trades between countries of which the UK is not one. The latter, in fact, account for about a third of our gross earnings from our general cargo fleet. Cross trades are also important to Denmark and the Netherlands, but the French and German fleets are engaged primarily in their respective national trades.

'Open-seas' approach

Thus, there is a great diversity of shipping interest among the members of the Community. However, the absence of any clearly defined EEC role in sea transport does not mean that the members of the Community disagree on major questions of shipping policy. The shipping industry operates across the world mainly in international waters and carries the imports and exports of every country in the world—even those which have no direct access by sea. It has long been our view that the industry is at its most efficient when it can carry on its daily business free from interference by individual governments, whose interests will rarely coincide exactly with those of other governments along the world's trade routes. This view is broadly shared by the other members of the Nine, although they may have different interpretations of how such an 'open seas' policy can best be achieved.

There is thus already a common approach to merchant shipping matters, and this extends not only to economic but also to safety aspects. That this should be so owes much to the existence of several international bodies at government level which already serve to co-ordinate the maritime interests of EEC countries. These include the Consultative Shipping Group (12 Western European countries and Japan), which meets regularly at official, and occasionally at Ministerial, level; the Maritime Transport Committee of the OECD, which has a wider membership, including the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand; and the Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation (IMCO)—a specialised agency of the United Nations, with headquarters in London, which has special responsibility for the safety of life at sea and the prevention of marine pollution from ships, and is also actively engaged in the production of maritime law conventions. Each of these bodies includes most of our EEC partners, and serves as a forum for discussion of mutual problems; in each the United Kingdom and other EEC countries play a prominent part. It is true to say that the large measure of harmonisation of shipping policies which has been achieved, particularly in the Consultative Shipping Group, has been beneficial to the merchant fleets of all EEC countries.

For shipping, the most immediate effect of our entry into the Community will probably be in the somewhat specialised area of the short sea trade routes between Britain and the Continent. As the common policies of the Nine outside the shipping field begin to bear fruit, one may expect a considerable expansion in seaborne trade on these routes which will be accompanied by further expansion in the carriage of passengers and their vehicles. British shipping has played a prominent part in the development of these trades over the years, and is now well placed to take full advantage of this opportunity for expansion. Similarly, on world trade routes the UK merchant fleet is in a strong position to make full use of the benefits attached to closer trading associations with our European partners.

Certificates of Experience

Intending to go and set up a business in another Member State of the European Community? . . . Then read this.

One of the less well-known advantages of EEC membership is the wider opportunities it gives to individual people from one Member State to go to another and set up their own business there. Freedom of Establishment, as this is called, is still a fair way from applying over the full range of possible occupations people might want to take up (for example, none of the professions is yet covered); but there has already been Community legislation for Community-wide freedom of access to quite an extensive range of occupations.

This legislation caters only, of course, for those wanting to work on their own account, **on a self-employed basis,** though whether they are at present employers or self-employed does not matter. Anyone going from one Community country to another to take up a job **as an employee** is covered not by Freedom of Establishment but by Free Movement of Labour provisions (more information on which can be obtained from your Local Employment Office).

The way in which freedom of access to self-employed activities is provided for varies from one Directive to another. ('Directive' is the name given to the particular kind of Community legislation used, and each Directive covers a specified occupation or group of occupations.) For some occupations, though not for all, the person who is setting up in business may have to be able to produce evidence of relevant experience or knowledge (although Member States do not always ask for this, even when a Directive allows them to). If such evidence is required, the minimum requirements are set out in some detail in the Directive relating to the occupation concerned.

If you are intending to go and set up business in another Member State, and you think that the Directive covering your line of business will require you to produce evidence of relevant experience or knowledge to put before the authorities in the country you are going to, you should get in touch with the 'Certificates of Experience' Unit in the Department of Trade and Industry, 1 Victoria Street, SW1H 0ET, saying which country you intend to go to and when, and what occupation you want to take up when you get there. The Unit will be glad to help.

The following list gives an indication of the lines of business for which a Certificate of Experience may be needed by anyone wanting to establish himself independently in another Member State. Whether or not a particular Directive covers a particular occupation is, however, a matter of legal interpretation, and the list should therefore not be taken as authoritative. It is intended to serve only as a general guide. If you think your line of business is covered by it, you should seek legal advice before taking matters further.

Freedom of establishment in the Community: Activities requiring Certificates of Experience

Directive 64/222

Activities covered

1. Wholesale Trade

Definition:
The re-sale (sale without transformation) of goods to business units and to institutions and governments; importers and exporters; manufacturers' sales offices and agents; commission merchants and commodity brokers; commodity exchanges; petroleum bulk stations; assemblers and buyers of farm products and co-operative agricultural marketing associations. This group includes the re-sale of industrial and construction materials, machinery and equipment; farm machinery, implements and supplies; and business and professional equipment. Warehousing, grading and sorting, and breaking bulk and re-packing (except where re-packing is in airtight containers), associated with re-selling, are also included.

2. Intermediaries in Commerce, Craft, Industry and Small Craft Industries

(i) Professional activities of an intermediary who, whether in consequence of one or more authorisations, is instructed to prepare or conclude business transactions in the name and for the account of another.

(ii) Professional activities of an intermediary who, though not under a permanent contract of service, links up persons wishing to enter into a direct contract with each other or prepares or helps to conclude their business transactions.

(iii) Professional activities of an intermediary who concludes business transactions in his own name for the account of another.

(continued on next page)

Directive 64/222

Activities covered (continued)

(iv) Professional activities of an intermediary who conducts wholesale auctions for the account of another.
(The activities referred to in items i-iv above are intended to include those of intermediaries who go from door to door seeking orders.)

(v) Activities which entail the provision of services by a paid intermediary in the service of one or more commercial, industrial or small craft undertakings. He and the undertakings employing him must reside or be established in a Member State other than the one in which the services are being carried out.

Exceptions

1. Wholesale trade in the following products:

Medicinal and pharmaceutical products.
Toxic products.
Pathogenic agents.
Coal (as covered by the definition of 'Wholesale Trade': see para 1 of 'Activities Covered').

2. Activities of an intermediary in the following fields:

insurance of all kinds (in particular insurance agents, brokers and experts);
banks and other financial establishments (in particular foreign exchange dealers, stockbrokers, mortgage brokers and the like);
real estate business (in particular estate agents and brokers);
transport undertakings (in particular shipping brokers, 'courtiers interprètes', navigators, forwarding agents, customs agents and travel agencies);
toxic products and pathogenic agents;
medicinal products and proprietary medicinal products;
coal;
activities which involve the exercise of official authority.

Directive 64/427

Activities covered

Certain Manufacturing and Processing Industries in the following fields:

Textile industry.
Manufacture of footwear, clothing and bedding.
Wood and cork industry.
Wooden furniture industry.
Paper industry and manufacture of paper articles.
Printing, publishing and related industries.
Leather industry.
Rubber, plastics, artificial and man-made fibres and starch products.
Chemical industry.
Oil industry.
Non-metallic minerals industry.
Production and first treatment of ferrous and non-ferrous metals.
Manufacture of metal articles (except machines and transport equipment).
Construction of non-electrical machines.
Electrical construction.
Construction of transport equipment.
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries.
Building and civil engineering.

Exceptions

Manufacture of medical and pharmaceutical products.
Building and repair of ships.
Building of railway equipment (vehicles and parts of vehicles).
Aeronautical construction (including the building of equipment for use in space).
Examination of the sight by opticians for the purpose of manufacturing lenses for glasses.

Directive 68/364

Activities covered

1. Retail Trade: The re-sale (sale without transformation) of goods for personal or household consumption or utilisation, including gasoline (petrol) filling stations and retail motor vehicle dealers and consumer co-operatives. For the purposes of this Directive an occupation in the retail trade means one pursued by any natural person or any company or firm which in the normal course of business buys goods in his or its own name and on his or its own account and resells them directly to the ultimate consumer. The goods may be resold either in the unaltered state or after processing, treatment or conditioning such as are normally carried out in the retail trade.

2. The **hire** of goods, in so far as the occupation in question is not covered by another Directive. The hiring occupations excluded for that reason are listed in item 3 in the list of exceptions below.

3. Any self-employed **agent** who in the normal course of business carries out retail **auction sales** on behalf of other persons.

Exceptions

1. The sale of food and drinks for consumption on the premises (restaurants, cafes, taverns and other drinking and eating places).

2. Retail activities in the following areas:

(i) Drugs and pharmaceutical products.
(ii) Toxic products.
(iii) Pathogenic agents.
(iv) Tobacco products.

(continued on next page)

Directive 68/364
Exceptions (continued)

(v) Salt products.
(vi) Door-to-door selling.
(vii) Hawking.
(viii) Peddling
(ix) Open-air market trading.
(x) Covered market trading without a stall.

NB: The activities of intermediaries who carry out retail selling by auctions on behalf of other persons are covered by Directive 64/224/EEC (q.v.).

3. Letting out on hire of agricultural machinery.
Property transactions; letting.
Letting out on hire of cars, vehicles and horses.
Letting out on hire of railway carriages and trucks.
Letting out on hire of machines for business houses.
Booking of cinema seats and letting out on hire of cinematographic films.
Booking of theatre seats and letting out on hire of theatrical equipment.
Letting out on hire of boats, bicycles and slot-machines.
Letting of furnished rooms.
Letting out on hire of household linen.
Letting out on hire of clothing.

4. Persons whose activity covers examination of the human body with a view to the sale of appropriate appliances for the correction of sight or hearing defects or for orthopaedic purposes.

Directive 68/366

Activities covered

Food-Manufacturing and Beverage Industries

Industries producing animal and vegetable fats and oils.

Food-manufacturing industries.

Beverage industries.

Manufacture of rubber products, plastic materials, artificial and synthetic fibres and starch products.

The Directive applies to the **selling** activities of **manufacturers** who sell their own product either wholesale or retail.

Exceptions

1. Activities involving the manufacture of drugs and pharmaceutical products.

2. Itinerant trading activities.

Directive 68/368

Activities covered

Personal Services Sector

1. Restaurants, cafes, taverns and other drinking and eating places; including retail establishments selling prepared food and drinks for immediate consumption on the premises, and serving meals to be consumed off the premises where they were prepared.

2. Hotels, rooming houses, camps and other lodging places, including the provision (on a fee basis) of lodging, camping space and camping facilities, whether open to the general public or restricted to members of a particular organisation. Restaurant facilities operated in connection with the provision of lodging.

Exceptions

The serving of prepared food or beverages intended to be consumed on the premises, if served from a movable stall.

Directive 70/523

Activities covered

Wholesale Coal Trade and Intermediaries in the Coal Sector

1. A natural person, company or firm buying coal in the normal course of business, in his or its own name and on his or its own behalf, and reselling it to other traders (wholesale or retail), processors, consumers in the trade or large-scale consumers.

2. The resale of coal either in the unaltered state or after being processed, treated or packed according to normal practice in the wholesale trade.

3. Activities within the wholesale coal trade carried on in the domestic, export, import or transit trade.

4. Wholesale selling activities of undertakings which produce coal.

5. Professional activities of an intermediary empowered and instructed by one or more persons to negotiate or enter into commercial transactions in the name of and on behalf of those persons.

6. Professional activities of an intermediary who, while not being so instructed, brings together persons wishing to contract directly with one another, or prepares, or helps to conclude, their commercial transactions.

7. Professional activities of an intermediary who concludes commercial transactions in his own name on behalf of a third party.

8. Certain professional services of an intermediary in the employment of one or more commercial industrial or small craft undertakings.

(Items 1 to 7 above include the activities of an intermediary who goes from door to door seeking orders.)

The Community and the environment

Criteria studies: foundations for pollution control

by O. H. J. Pearcey, Central Unit on Environmental Pollution, DOE

Criteria in the Environment Programme

A previous article in this series (published in the August issue of *European Communities Commentary*) outlined the EEC Environment Programme which was agreed by the Council of Ministers at their meeting in July. Work has already started on the first stage of this programme, in which scientific studies will be made of the effects of various pollutants. These will be done by groups of scientific and medical experts drawn from Member States, who will report to the Commission. The Commission will then make proposals to the Council of Ministers based on the advice of the expert groups. The United Kingdom representatives (generally officers in the Government Scientific Service) are taking an active part in the formation and work of these groups.

The Community Environment Programme defines *criterion* as signifying 'the relationship between the exposure of a target to pollution or nuisance, and the risk and the magnitude of the adverse or undesirable effect resulting from the exposure in given circumstances', where the target may be man or some other component of the environment, and both exposure and effect are expressed in quantitative terms where this is possible. The criteria studies are intended to provide a rigorous scientific assessment on which to base conclusions as to the need for future common action at community level. In particular they will form the basis of discussion on environmental quality objectives and standards towards which the Community has agreed to work where this seems desirable.

The UK has consistently held the view that environmental quality objectives or standards at Community level must be firmly rooted in a rigorous assessment of all available data, and will therefore resist attempts to set standards in the absence of a criteria study which is as complete as possible. In common with other countries we do recognise, however, that full scientific proof in this field is difficult to obtain, and in certain situations, when the available evidence is substantial, it may be prudent to accept the temporary adoption of Community-wide standards pending the completion of proper criteria for some substances (possibly lead, mercury, cadmium and organo-chlorinated compounds in water)—but only after detailed examination by national experts. In general, the UK will continue to emphasise the importance of introducing only those standards that can be fully justified objectively.

Procedures and progress

The Environment Programme envisages that the expert groups carrying out criteria studies will start work by assembling and collating data on the levels of particular pollutants in the environment provided by Member States from their environmental monitoring programmes. They will also consider whether and in what form further data should be obtained. Inter alia, this will involve a comparison of the monitoring systems used by each country, to determine whether blocks of data are compatible, and the group may recommend that systems of monitoring should be harmonised. For this work the membership of the groups will be primarily scientific personnel. When a sufficient body of apparently satisfactory data has been obtained, this will be assessed from a medical angle, either by the original group reconstituted with medical advice or by a separate group of experts, who will attempt to draft criteria for the pollutant under investigation. They may find this is impossible because of inadequate information on pollutant levels in the environment or on their effects on human health. The final report of the expert groups to the Commission will therefore include draft criteria, where these can be written for a pollutant, and recommendations for further research.

The Environment Programme gives priority for investigation to a list of pollutants chosen because of their toxicity and their significance to health and in the environment. Expert groups have already started work on a number of these priority pollutants, namely lead (in air), carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxide, sulphur dioxide and particulates (in air), halogenated organic compounds, non-persistent organic compounds (eg, phenols and hydrocarbons) in water, and noise. Action still has to be taken on asbestos and vanadium in air, known carcinogenic hydro-carbons, and organo-phosphorus compounds. Of the groups already started, the most advanced in its work is that studying lead, which has already prepared an internal paper on environmental lead levels measured by Member States. A separate group of medical experts will now consider this paper and advise the first group of any further information needed before they make a definitive pronouncement on the risks to health caused by lead in air.

The other groups listed are all in the process of preparing internal papers on levels of pollutants monitored. In some cases, notably carbon monoxide and sulphur dioxide, they are also considering reports and criteria studies undertaken by the World Health Organisation. The groups in general are aware of the importance of relating community criteria and standards to those being prepared by other international organisations, including WHO and the OECD.

By July 31, 1974, the Commission will have proposed a definitive list of pollutants for evaluation at a later stage in the

CRITERIA STUDIES

continued

Environment Programme. Some exploratory work will, however, be started during the first phase outlined above. The provisional list of category-2 pollutants includes:

Air	Water
Fluorine	Dyes
Nickel	Vanadium, cobalt, antimony
Cadmium	Boron, barium, thallium
Chlorine and hydrochloric acid	Phosphate
Hydrogen sulphide	Nitrogenous derivatives
Antimony	Other pesticides
Mercaptans	Organic solvents
Organic dusts	Iron and free chlorine
Beryllium	Substances having an unpleasant odour or taste
Nitrosamines	Bleaching agents
Ammonia	

The Commission has set a deadline of December 31, 1974, for the submission of a report and recommendation on the first list of substances to the Council of Ministers. The size of the programme proposed makes it most unlikely that the studies will be completed by this date.

Research

The Council of Ministers agreed earlier this year to the inclusion of the following subjects in the Community research programme (with a budget of £9,266,000 over the next three to four years):

analysis and measuring of pollutants,
progress and effects of pollutants,
models and analysis of systems,
noxiousness of lead,
effect of micro pollutants on humans,
ecological effects of water pollutants,
remote sensing of atmospheric pollution,
epidemiological surveys.

The research requirements likely to be identified by the expert groups will generally fall in these areas, and may include studies of monitoring methods, levels of environmental pollutants, and the effects of pollutants on human health or the environment. The machinery for assessing research requirements at Community level is still under discussion in Brussels, but it is likely that any proposed research in the environmental field will fall to be considered by the *Advisory Committee on Environmental Research*, on which the Member States will be represented. Research will be commissioned through the Directorate of Research, Science and Education and will be carried out either at the Community's own Joint Research Centre or at public and commercial facilities within the Member States on a contract basis.

Supplements to the 'Bulletin of the European Communities'

Commission communications, reports and proposals for legislation are occasionally published as Supplements to the *Bulletin of the European Communities*. The Supplements are available either on annual subscription together with the Bulletin (as indicated on page 12 of the October edition of *European Communities Commentary*) or as individual copies.

Listed below are the Bulletin Supplements which appeared in 1972 and up to October 15 in 1973. Orders, quoting the Standard Book Number (which in the list is given in brackets after each title), should be sent to HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1. The price inclusive of postage is given in parentheses at the end of each reference.

1972 Supplements

1/72: The Enlarged Community. Status of the Negotiations with the Applicant Countries. (11 932551 9). 69 pp. 26p (31½p).

2/72: Commission Memorandum on a Community Policy for Development Co-operation. Initial Action Programme. (11 932550 0). 23 pp. 9p (11½p).

3/72: Proposals for Harmonisation of Consumer Taxation other than VAT. (11 932724 4). 82 pp. 26p (31½p).

4/72: Report by the ad hoc Group examining the question of increasing Parliament's powers. (Vedel Report). (11 932676 0). 89 pp. 26p (31½p).

5/72: A Community Environment Programme. (11 932739 2). 69 pp. 26p (29½p).

6/72: Objectives and resources for a Community policy on Scientific Research and Technological Development. (11 932740 6). 58 pp. 17½p (21p).

7/72: Tax Exemptions for Imports by Travellers. (11 932741 4). 10 pp. 9p (11½p).

8/72: Proposed Directive and Draft Council Recommendation on a Prospectus to be published when securities are admitted to Official Stock Exchange Quotation. (11 933007 5). 72 pp. 32p (37½p).

9/72: Community measures for the alignment of legislation (1958-1971). (11 932997 2). 52 pp. 21p (24½p).

10/72: Proposal for a Fifth Directive on the Structure of Sociétés Anonymes. (11 933187 X). 68 pp. 32p (35½p).

11/72: Necessary Progress in Community Energy Policy. (11 933395 3). 28 pp. 11p (14½p).

12/72 Report on the Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgements in civil and commercial matters. (11 933396 1). 116 pp. 32p (38½p).

1973 Supplements (to 15th October)

1/73: Renewal and enlargement of the association with the AASM and certain Commonwealth countries. (11 933418 6). 40 pp. 21p (24½p).

2/73: Development of an overall approach to trade in view of the coming multilateral negotiations in GATT. (11 933249 3). 12 pp. 11p (14p).

3/73: Programme of Environmental Action of the European Communities. (0 11 933530 1). 68 pp. 35p (40½p).

4/73: Guidelines for a social action programme. (11 933455 0). 16 pp. 11p (14½p).

5/73: Attainment of the Economic and Monetary Union. (0 11 933472 0). 20 pp. 11p (14p).

6/73: Guidelines and priority actions under the Community energy policy. (0 11 933504 2). 12 pp. 12p (15p).

7/73: Towards the establishment of a European industrial base. (0 11 933501 8). 24 pp. 12p (16p).

8/73: Report on the regional problems in the enlarged Community. (0 11 933502 6). 16 pp. 12p (15p).

Eliminating technical barriers to trade within the EEC

Article 100: Directives on measuring instruments

by L. Harper, Standards Weights and Measures Division, DTI

Barriers to trade in measuring instruments arise because in most states, including all the Member States of the EEC, the technical characteristics of certain measuring instruments, particularly those used in trade, are governed by legislation. The technical characteristics or test requirements imposed are not necessarily the same in each state, nor does one importing state necessarily recognise approvals granted by the authorities of another, even if the characteristics tested and the tests themselves are identical with those required in the importing state.

The Community therefore is confronted with a formidable task in harmonising different Members' requirements, and ensuring that each Member State recognises tests and approvals in other Member States. Some idea of the extent of its current programme of work can be obtained from the number of items covered by just one head—'Measuring Instruments and Measures'—in the check-list of Article 100 Directives and draft Directives published in the October issue of *European Communities Commentary*. In the present article the author discusses the scope of the seven measuring-instrument Directives which have been adopted so far. The Commission hopes to complete its programme in this sector by the end of 1977. Reviews of other Directives in this field will be included in the *Commentary* as they become adopted.

The technique adopted for Directives in the measuring-instruments field has been the familiar one of first establishing a 'general' Directive which brings together general provisions applying to a group of items, and then laying down particular provisions in a series of 'special' Directives. The article is therefore concerned with the 'general' Directive on measuring instruments and methods of metrological control (71/316/EEC), and the following 'special' Directives: medium-accuracy weights (71/317/EEC); measurement of the standard mass for storage volume of grain (71/347/EEC); the calibration of ships' tanks (71/349/EEC); meters for liquids other than water (71/319/EEC); ancillary equipment for meters for liquids other than water (71/348/EEC); and gas volume meters (71/318/EEC).

Directive 71/316/EEC: Common provisions for measuring instruments and methods of metrological control

This, the 'general' Directive, lays down the framework for the harmonisation of the different Member States' requirements and establishes mutual recognition of approvals carried out in accordance with special Directives. It does not lay down that Community prescriptions will necessarily replace national ones; depending on the relevant special Directive, the two may co-exist. In such cases a manufacturer would have the choice of meeting either the Community prescriptions or the national ones in force in the country where his product is used, but no country may refuse an instrument made to the Community prescription.

The Directive envisages three types of control which may be applied to a measuring instrument:

Pattern approval: approval of the design (often a prototype instrument) to which the instruments are manufactured.

Initial verification: verification before an individual instrument is put to use that it is true to type and/or meets the prescribed requirements; verification may require more than one series of tests.

Control of instruments in use: periodic checking of instruments to ensure that they still measure with the required accuracy and otherwise conform with the prescriptions governing their use.

These three types of control correspond to the controls in the United Kingdom's weights and measures legislation. Particular types of instrument may be required to undergo any of these controls or any combination of them.

The Directive contains eight Chapters and has two Annexes:

Chapter I (Article 1) covers the general obligations on Member States to treat EEC approvals as though they were national ones; and also provides for special Directives to prescribe technical characteristics and types of control for particular categories of instruments.

Chapter II (Article 2-7) and Annex I deal with EEC pattern approval. They cover the definition of, and conditions for grant of, EEC pattern approval; time and other possible limitations on such a grant; revocation of a grant of approval; and exemption from such approval. Annex I includes details of the signs relating to EEC pattern approval.

Chapter III (Articles 8-11) and Annex II are concerned with EEC initial verification, the definition of and conditions governing such verification, and exemption from this requirement. Annex II includes details of the EEC initial verification marks.

Chapter IV (Articles 12-14) lays down certain general provisions applicable both to EEC pattern approval and initial verification. Member States are obliged to prevent the use of marks or inscriptions likely to be confused with the EEC signs or marks, and to notify each other and the Commission of their competent metrological authorities.

Chapter V (Article 15) governs the control of instruments in service.

Chapter VI (Article 16) provides for the harmonisation by special Directives of methods of measurement and of metrological control (as distinct from technical prescriptions of measuring instruments) and of legislative provisions governing the measurement

and marking of prescribed quantities.

Chapter VII (Articles 17-19) establishes the procedure for the adaption of the Directive's Annexes I and II, and of the technical annexes to the special Directives, in the light of technical progress. It provides for the setting up of a committee for this purpose, consisting of representatives of the Member States with a representative of the Commission as Chairman.

Chapter VIII (Articles 20-22) requires decisions taken under the Directive and the special Directives to be reasoned; obliges Member States to implement the Directive within 18 months of its formal notification and to notify the Commission of the measures taken to do so; and, lastly, addresses the Directive to the Member States.

A Council Directive to amend Annex II of the Directive as adopted on July 26, 1971, was necessary to take account of the enlargement of the Community. In this Directive—**Directive 72/427/EEC** of December 19, 1972—the drawings in Annex II showing the shape, dimensions and outline of the letters to be incorporated in the EEC verification mark are supplemented with drawings of conforming letters relating to the Acceding States.

Directive 71/317/EEC: Medium-accuracy weights

The following weights are covered: 5 to 50 kg medium-accuracy rectangular bar weights; 1 to 10 kg medium-accuracy cylindrical weights. Aimed at removing the hindrance to trade in such weights resulting from differing provisions in Member States for their construction and methods of control, the Directive prescribes the conditions which they must meet before they can bear the EEC marks and symbols specified. Member States are not obliged to substitute the Directive's provisions for their national ones, but are merely required not to forbid the sale or putting into service of weights which have been certified as meeting these conditions. The Directive does not require that the weights should be subject to EEC pattern approval, but does require that they be submitted to EEC initial verification.

An EEC Commission proposal for a similar Directive on higher-accuracy weights should be adopted shortly.

Directive 71/347/EEC: Measurement of the standard mass per storage volume of grain

The Directive establishes a common measuring unit, defined as the 'EEC standard mass per storage volume', for the bulk weighing of grain traded between Member States. This unit represents the weight in kilogrammes of a hectolitre of grain of any kind measured by a standard instrument conforming in construction and use to the specifications of the Directive. The purpose of the Directive is to facilitate trade, not only in grain but also in the measuring instruments used. The instrument specified is subject to EEC pattern approval and EEC initial verification and is required to bear the EEC marks and symbols.

The EEC Commission have started work on the necessary companion Directive on instruments for measuring the humidity of grain.

Directive 71/349/EEC: Calibration of the tanks of vessels

This Directive concerns 'EEC calibration' of the tanks of inland waterways vessels and of coasters ('EEC calibration' being defined as a calibration carried out by a Member State in accordance with the Directive); and, by obliging Member States to recognise such calibration, it seeks to remove the difficulties arising from the differing requirements, some mandatory, of Member States for the methods by which the tanks (including the liquid-fuel bunkers) of inland waterways vessels and national and international coasters may be calibrated for the measurement of their contents. The UK has no such mandatory requirements.

The Directive provides for calibration to be recorded (in accordance with the procedure detailed in the Annexes) in an EEC certificate, and requires Member States to attach the same value to this certificate as to corresponding national documents. It also stipulates that the measuring instruments used to determine the level of liquid in tanks calibrated in accordance with the Directive shall be specially adapted for the purpose and comply with requirements to be laid down in a separate Directive. In the interim, instruments currently accepted by the competent services in the Member States may be used; but this provisional arrangement is to terminate one year after the date for the entry into force of the separate Directive.

Directive 71/319/EEC: Meters for liquids other than water

The Directive applies to volumetric meters for liquids other than water in which the liquid causes the movement of mobile walls of measuring chambers, and which permit the measurement of any volumes. It covers such instruments as meters used for measuring petrol, milk, wine and chemical products. A 'volumetric meter for liquids' is defined as an instrument composed solely of a measuring device and an indicating device. It generally forms part of a 'measuring system'. By 'measuring system for liquids' is meant a measuring instrument comprising, in addition to the meter itself and any ancillary equipment associated with it, all the devices necessary for ensuring correct measurement and any added to it to facilitate the operations. (Measuring systems will be the subject of a separate future Directive.)

Directive 71/319/EEC requires that meters be subject to EEC pattern approval and submitted to EEC initial verification under the conditions laid down in general Directive 71/316/EEC and under those to be laid down in the separate Directive on measuring systems; and it prescribes the maximum errors permissible when liquid-measuring systems incorporating volumetric meters bearing EEC marks and symbols are subject to initial verification. It obliges Member States to accept meters bearing the EEC pattern-approval symbol and initial verification mark, but does not require them to substitute the Directive's provisions for their national ones.

Directive 71/348/EEC: Ancillary equipment for meters for liquids other than water

This Directive, which is linked with Directive 71/319/EEC as well as general Directive 71/316/EEC, specifies the ancillary equipment for volumetric metres for liquids other than water—zeroing, volume - totalising, price - computing, printing and presetting mechanisms, and sealing devices—which may bear the EEC marks and symbols.

The Directive requires that the mechanisms covered be subject to EEC pattern approval and that they should be submitted to EEC initial verification at the same time as the meters with which they are associated.

Directive 71/318/EEC: Gas volume meters

The Directive applies to volumetric meters with deformable walls and those with rotary pistons, and to diaphragm meters, positive rotary to displacement meters and turbine meters. To overcome the obstacles to trade in these meters caused by differences in Member States' mandatory provisions for their construction and control, the Directive obliges Member States to accept meters which have been certified as meeting EEC requirements and to test meters to these requirements at the request of the manufacturer; it does not require Member States to substitute these requirements for their existing national ones. The meters are subject to EEC type approval and EEC initial verification, and the Directive prescribes the detailed conditions which the meters must meet to secure these.

The adaptation of the Directive to take account of collaborative tests on low-flow-rate testing and UK views on endurance testing is being examined. A study has also been undertaken of the problem posed by the widely differing fees levied by Member States for the national certification of gas meters. The Commission propose to prepare a Directive on differential-pressure gas meters, but this is for the future.

EEC—your questions answered

The EEC Information Unit's function in life is to help firms—small or large—to find answers to the questions posed by the UK's membership of the European Communities. Many of the inquiries received concern firms' own activities or special problems, and these, of course, are kept strictly confidential; but many are of general interest, and the answers to some of these are given below in the expectation that readers will find them useful.

Q. I am taking some industrial products in a lorry to Yugoslavia through Belgium, Germany and Austria. How can I make the journey without having to pay customs duties in each country, and then having to apply for a refund?

A. Provided your lorry is sealed throughout the journey then the answer to your problem is to use a T.I.R. Carnet. The T.I.R. Convention (1959) instituted the system of T.I.R. carnets. Customs-approved vehicles and containers and certain heavy or bulky goods, travelling under T.I.R. and having been sealed at the Customs Office of departure, are normally free from further examination until the Customs Office of the final destination is reached.

The T.I.R. carnet serves as a bond and is guaranteed by the Trade Association which issues it. No payment or deposit of duty in the countries through which you are travelling is normally incurred. Carnets are issued and guaranteed in the UK by the Road Haulage Association, 22 Upper Woburn Place, WC1 (Tel: 01-387 9711), and the Freight Transport Association, Sunley House, Bedford Park, Croydon (Tel: 01-686 0731), on behalf of their members.

This scheme applies in countries which are signatories to the T.I.R. Convention. These are: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Iran, Irish Republic, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Rumania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, USA and Yugoslavia.

At present, traders moving goods between Member States of the EEC have a choice between the Community Transit System or the T.I.R. procedure. Under EEC Regulation 542/69 it was envisaged that the option of using T.I.R. for a movement which both began and ended in the Community would cease on December 31, 1973. The Commission have now agreed, however, that this option may continue until December 31, 1975. After that date, therefore, operators will be able to use T.I.R. for movements which either begin or end in the Community, but for movements wholly within the Community they will have to use the Community transit procedures.

Q. I want to send some textile goods by post to Austria. Do they need to be supported in all cases by a Movement certificate validated by the Customs?

A. Provided that the package contains only goods which satisfy the origin conditions for the Free Trade Agreements between the EEC and the EFTA countries, and they are of no more than 1,000 units of account (at present approximately £420) in value, a form EUR.2 confirming that they fulfil the necessary conditions and completed by the UK exporter will be sufficient.

If you are claiming admission at ex-EFTA rate of duty, the endorsement 'Article 25 (1) satisfied' should be entered in the Remarks Space of form EUR.2. Unlike the similar endorsement in the case of Movement Certificates, this endorsement is not validated by the Customs. Further details of the use of this form are given in Customs Notice No. 810.

Supplies of form EUR.2 (ref. C.1297) and Customs Notice 810 may be obtained from any Custom House or office of a Collector of Customs and Excise in the UK, or from the Secretaries' Office, HM Customs and Excise, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE.

Q. What is the difference between the three instruments of EEC secondary legislation: Regulations, Directives and Decisions?

A. The Regulation—the most commonly used instrument—is binding in its entirety and has the effect of law in each Member State without the intervention of the National Parliament. Most Regulations deal with agricultural prices and levies, although other matters such as tariffs and free movement of goods are also covered.

A Directive is 'binding as to the result to be achieved', but it is left to the individual Member State to decide how to achieve the result. This means that each Member State amends its own laws or administrative practice as necessary to bring them into line with Community law. Directives are specifically prescribed under the Treaty of Rome as the means for implementing various Articles of that treaty—eg, Article 100 which provides for harmonisation of Member States' legislation and which is used in many fields, including technical standards, safety, and weights and measures. Directives may also be used at the discretion of the Institutions where the result to be achieved is more important than the means. They are invariably addressed to the Member States.

A Decision is usually concerned with a specific problem and may be directed at an individual, a company or a single Member State, but not the Community as a whole. It may, for example, require a Member State or a company to stop some infringement of the Treaty or to authorise a particular course of action, and is binding on that Member State or company.

Regulations must be published in the **'Official Journal'** of the Community, and come into force on the date specified in them or, failing this, on the 20th day following their publication. Directives and Decisions are notified to those to whom they are directed and take effect upon such notification. Directives and most Decisions are published in the **'Official Journal', Legislation (L) series.**

Q. I have heard that the Open University is offering a home-based introductory course on the EEC. Can you give me more details?

A. Beginning on December 29, 1973, the Post Experience Department of the Open University is running an eight week course, offering a balanced introduction to the European Community, and likely to be of particular value to middle management and those who, in the nature of their work, will need to know more about the EEC without necessarily becoming specialists. The fee is £10.

The course is made up of eight weekly correspondence 'units', which are despatched directly to students, together with a course reader which can be purchased from bookshops. The first four units concentrate on the structure of the Community and the way in which it works, and the second four units on how Community policy affects UK economic and social structure. Television and radio programmes are included in the course, and assignments are given to provide a means of continuous assessment of an individual's progress. No qualifications are needed to become a student. Contributors include leading academics, figures working in the Community and some of the Community's critics.

The course ends on February 22, 1974, following which participants will receive a letter of course completion from the University.

Full details of Post Experience Course *P933: The European Economic Community* can be obtained from:

The Post Experience Student Office,
The Open University,
PO Box 76,
Milton Keynes,
MK7 6AA
(Tel: Milton Keynes 74066).

For answers to *your* questions, contact the EEC Information Unit, Department of Trade and Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET. Tel: 01-222 7877—Ext. 3591 for publications: Exts. 5377, 5479, 5480 or 3579 for questions on EEC matters.

New European weather centre to be built in Britain

Britain's Meteorological Centre at Bracknell, which houses a large proportion of Europe's existing weather forecasting resources is to be the nucleus of a new international organisation, the European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (ECMWF). The first task of the new body will be to develop reliable techniques for accurate forecasting up to 10 days ahead—a task which, it is estimated, will involve the daily use of information from 8,000 weather stations, 5,000 merchant ships and 800 upper air observations on a global scale.

Meteorologists and scientists from Britain and 17 European countries will work together at the centre, first at Bracknell and later at a specially designed building to be erected at Shinfield Park, some eight miles away. They will have available the extensive facilities of the British Meteorological Office, including the World Weather Watch network of observation stations, and the direct links with World Meteorological Centres in Washington, Moscow and Melbourne.

ECMWF forecasts will be circulated to the national meteorological services of the participating countries on a daily updating basis—a 'rolling forecast' capable of being adapted to take into account geography and other factors influencing local weather conditions. The photograph shows a weather satellite picture from Essa 8 being received at Bracknell. When 'interrogated' by the Meteorological Centre, the satellite produces a picture of the European area depicting the frontal systems and their associated cloud formations. This information is then used, in conjunction with data from other sources, in compiling forecasts.

'Trends in Education—1973 Europe Issue'

To mark the UK's accession to the European Communities,

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'Destination Europe' BOTB's exporter's guide to the EEC

The British Overseas Trade Board's handbook, **'Destination Europe: An Exporter's Guide to the EEC'**, is written to be of service both to firms already selling in Europe and to those new to the market, and is directed primarily at smaller and medium-sized companies. Since it was first issued in March it has had to be reprinted to keep pace with demand.

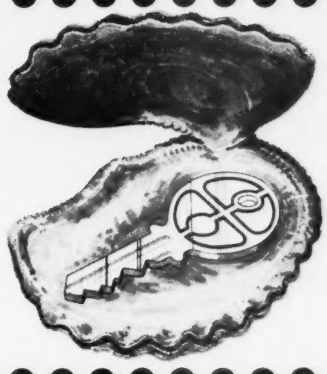
Mr. Derek Ezra, Chairman of BOTB's European Trade Committee, summarises the book's aims and scope as follows:

'Exporters already selling to the EEC are looking now to falling tariffs and rationalised selling arrangements to improve their sales; others, who are concentrating on former European Free Trade Area partners and territories having traditional ties with the United Kingdom, are considering how the new situation affects their prospects both in Europe and the rest of the world. But I would expect many who have not exported hitherto to turn to Europe for the first time, and they will, as the years go by, come to regard the rest of the Community as an extension of their present home market. The official export services stand ready to help all these firms.

'This book summarises the services available and how they may be tapped. Part I deals with the considerations which need to be taken into account when looking at the European Economic Community as a new or as a growth market, not all of which may be familiar to the small firm or new exporter. Part II of the book provides useful background information about the Communities' Institutions and the development of EEC policies.

'I commend it as a practical guide to all firms determined to make the most of the new opportunities which lie ahead of us.'

You can get your copy of 'Destination Europe' from Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4, or from any Regional Office of the Department of Trade and Industry.



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Economic Indicators of the EEC

These tables have been prepared for the convenience of users who do not have access to the sources themselves; international publications (as indicated) have been used, supplemented by later reports where possible. In addition to the Member States of the EEC, the United States and Japan have been included for comparison.

The form of presentation adopted—indicators by subject—is for convenience only, and it must not be assumed that the indicators in the same table for different countries are strictly comparable. An attempt has been made to indicate major differences of definition, but the coverage and methods of collection vary considerably; this is partly due to different administrative procedures in various countries. Fuller details may be obtained from the sources indicated, and from the national publications of the countries concerned.

An extensive bibliography—'Sources of Statistics: 2. The European Economic Community'—which lists publications in the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library of the Department of Trade and Industry, is obtainable on request to the library at Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (Tel: 01-248 5757, ext. 368). 'Statistical News' No. 21 (May 1973), published by the Central Statistical Office, contains a selected bibliography of statistical publications of the Commission of the European Communities.

TABLE 1. INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION
(Excluding construction) Seasonally adjusted

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium	Luxembourg	France[1]	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom[4]	EEC[3]	*United States*	*Japan*
Weights in EEC	3.8	0.3	23.5	36.5	0.7	12.6	4.4	18.2	100.0	—	—
Weights in total	1.5	0.1	9.0	14.0	0.2	4.9	1.7	7.0	36.4	*48.4*	*13.1*
1968	88	88	84	83	90	91	81	97	87	*99*	*74*
1969	97	100	94	94	97	94	91	98	95	*104*	*88*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	103	99	106	102	105	99	109	101	103	*100*	*103*
1972	109	103	114	106	109	104	116	102	108	*108*	*110*
1971 1st quarter	103	96	104	102	104	99	106	100	102	*99*	*103*
2nd quarter	103	100	103	103	104	96	106	101	102	*100*	*102*
3rd quarter	104	100	107	102	103	95	108	101	102	*100*	*103*
4th quarter	103	99	109	100	107	100	110	100	103	*101*	*103*
1972 1st quarter	108	98	111	104	107	99	113	98	104	*103*	*106*
2nd quarter	109	102	112	105	106	99	115	103	106	*107*	*108*
3rd quarter	108	104	115	105	109	97	116	102	107	*109*	*111*
4th quarter	114	108	117	109	114	105	120	106	111	*113*	*116*
1973 1st quarter	116	114	122	113	122	99 (e)	123	110	115	*115*	*124*
2nd quarter	114	112	122	114		108 (e)	122	110	115	*117*	*128*
3rd quarter										*119* (e)	
1972 August	107	106	115	103		95	116	101	106	*109*	*111*
September	111	104	115	106		98	117	104	108	*110*	*113*
October	112	107	115	108		105	118	105	110	*112*	*114*
November	114	107	118	109		104	119	106	111	*113*	*116*
December	116	110	119	111		105	123	106	113	*113*	*119*
1973 January	115	108	122	113		101	123	108	114	*115*	*122*
February	116	116	122	115		98 (e)	124	110	115	*116*	*122*
March	116	117	123	112		98 (e)	122	111	115	*116*	*127*
April	113	112	119	115		106 (e)	122	110	115	*116*	*126*
May	119	114	125	112		108 (e)	122	110	116	*117*	*129*
June	110	111	123	115		111 (e)	122	111	116	*118*	*129*
July		115	127 (e)	109		112 (e)	121	111		*119*	*129*
August						108 (e)		111		*118*	*131*
September										*119* (e)	
% change latest three months:											
On previous three months	−1.4	−1.4	+2.9	−1.8	+7.0	+6.1	−0.8	+0.7	+0.9	*+1.4*	*+1.9*
On a year earlier	+4.9	+11.1	+9.9	+6.7	+14.0	+13.4	+6.4	+9.3	+8.8	*+8.9*	*+18.7*

[1]Excluding clothing, wood products and furniture.
[2]Mining and manufacturing only.
[3]Excluding Denmark.
[4]Revised weights used in this series
(e) Estimated
Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

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TABLE 2. UNEMPLOYMENT

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium[1,2]	Denmark[1,3]	France[2,4]	German F.R.[5]	Ireland[1]	Italy[6]	Netherlands[2,5]	United Kingdom[5]	*United States*[6]	*Japan*[7]
1968	147	163	97	218	88	113	147	95	*69*	*108*
1969	120	129	85	120	86	108	115	94	*69*	*104*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	100	125	129	126	100	100	135	129	*122*	*111*
1972	123	125	145	166	114	114	235	142	*118*	*119*
1971 1st quarter	96	92	121	105	95	96	107	111	*122*	*105*
2nd quarter	96	125	126	126	95	102	122	126	*121*	*110*
3rd quarter	100	133	132	142	100	98	141	135	*123*	*115*
4th quarter	107	150	138	154	112	102	174	146	*124*	*121*
1972 1st quarter	114	138	142	143	114	106	207	149	*123*	*119*
2nd quarter	120	142	146	181	114	113	254	147	*120*	*120*
3rd quarter	125	125	148	192	117	121	265	141	*118*	*122*
4th quarter	130	100	145	176	114	117	237	132	*113*	*117*
1973 1st quarter	125	42	140	141	107	107	220	117	*108*	*110*
2nd quarter	127	104	144	187	103	133	263	106	*107*	*108*
3rd quarter							261 (e)	99	*104*	
1972 August	125	121	148	193	117		270	139	*119*	*124*
September	128	117	150	194	117		267	141	*118*	*122*
October	132	104	147	191	114	117	257	137	*118*	*119*
November	131	100	144	179	114		243	132	*110*	*120*
December	127	96	144	157	114		211	126	*110*	*111*
1973 January	125	50	141	131	110	107	202	124	*107*	*111*
February	125	29	139	142	107		217	116	*109*	*108*
March	125	42	139	150	105		239	111	*107*	*110*
April	127	129	143	179	102	133	259	109	*108*	*107*
May	127	83	143	189	102		263	105	*107*	*110*
June	128	104	145	194	105		270	104	*104*	*108*
July	131	108	153	207	105	100	257	102	*103*	*107*
August	131	96	158	216	105		265	99	*103*	
September							261 (e)	96	*105*	
October								91		
Rate %	3.5		1.9	1.0		3.2	2.6	2.3	*4.8*	*1.0*
% change latest three months										
On previous three months	+3.0	+21.3	+7.2	+19.0	+1.5	−24.4	−1.1	−8.0	*−2.9*	*+0.1*
On a year earlier	+4.9	−19.6	+4.4	+9.0	−10.2	−16.8	−1.6	−32.4	*−12.5*	*−11.1*

Note: Figures of total unemployment and unemployment rates are very sensitive to the particular measures used and the sources from which they are obtained. The figures in this table to a large extent reflect the different administrative systems and social-security provisions of the countries concerned.

[1] Insured unemployed. [2] Change of basis during period. [3] Monthly data are weekly averages. [4] Unfilled applications. [5] Registered unemployed.
[6] Based on results of sample survey. [7] Unemployment-insurance beneficiaries.
[8] Numbers in latest month available as % of total employees (UK) and of total labour force (others). (e) estimated. Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators

TABLE 3. EXPORTS (fob)

Special trade,[1] seasonally adjusted

US$ million*

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark[2]	France	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom[2]	EEC	*United States*[2]	*Japan*[2]
1968	8,160	2,580	12,708	24,840	792	10,188	8,340	15,348	64,236	*34,416*	*12,972*
1969	10,068	2,952	15,024	29,052	888	11,724	9,960	17,520	97,200	*37,992*	*15,984*
1970	11,592	3,288	17,940	34,188	1,032	13,188	11,772	19,356	112,356	*43,224*	*19,320*
1971	12,081	3,609	20,592	39,009	1,308	15,177	13,953	22,356	128,084	*44,211*	*23,994*
1972	15,612	4,332	25,777	46,187	1,603	18,576	16,386	24,340	152,813	*49,667*	*28,511*
1971 1st quarter	2,868	834	4,818	9,219	312	3,531	3,273	4,896	29,751	*11,370*	*5,538*
2nd quater	2,898	900	4,893	9,522	321	3,534	3,354	5,623	31,045	*11,106*	*5,928*
3rd quarter	3,186	918	5,382	10,179	321	3,930	3,561	5,820	33,297	*11,805*	*6,123*
4th quarter	3,129	957	5,499	10,089	354	4,182	3,765	6,016	33,991	*11,106*	*6,405*
1972 1st quarter	3,582	1,056	5,913	11,025	369	4,368	3,945	6,044	36,302	*12,045*	*6,675*
2nd quarter	3,821	1,085	6,337	11,472	385	4,487	4,149	6,378	38,114	*11,676*	*6,656*
3rd quarter	3,919	1,055	6,445	11,270	413	4,556	4,025	5,389	37,072	*12,529*	*7,261*
4th quarter	4,290	1,136	7,082	12,420	436	5,165	4,267	6,529	41,325	*13,505*	*7,891*
1973 1st quarter	4,721	1,322	7,630	14,074	467	4,279	5,573	6,863	44,929	*15,692*	*8,266*
2nd quarter	5,204 (e)	1,409	8,665	16,106	509	5,170	5,845	7,673	50,622 (e)	*16,817*	*8,752*
3rd quarter			9,776 (e)	18,662 (e)				8,082			*9,211* (e)
1972 August	1,370	341	2,094	3,938	130	1,488	1,406	1,304	12,071	*4,193*	*2,382*
September	1,361	355	2,289	3,820	142	1,521	1,367	2,127	12,982	*4,237*	*2,535*
October	1,403	374	2,344	4,157	147	1,590	1,379	2,286	13,680	*4,413*	*2,497*
November	1,306	375	2,351	4,171	144	1,510	1,434	2,149	13,440	*4,563*	*2,623*
December	1,581	387	2,387	4,092	145	2,065	1,454	2,094	14,205	*4,529*	*2,771*
1973 January	1,370	396	2,432	4,606	132	1,445	1,759	2,210	14,350	*5,189*	*2,564*
February	1,612	472	2,540	4,776	164	1,603	2,003	2,331	15,501	*5,110*	*3,064*
March	1,739	454	2,658	4,692	171	1,231	1,811	2,322	15,078	*5,393*	*2,638*
April	1,761	419	2,673	5,122	162	1,454	1,793	2,531	15,915	*5,607*	*2,909*
May	1,740	494	2,891	5,550	172	1,685	2,027	2,460	17,019	*5,518*	*2,920*
June	1,703 (e)	496	3,101	5,434	175	2,031	2,025	2,682	17,688 (e)	*5,692*	*2,923*
July	1,940 (e)	593	3,369	6,019	179	2,105	2,109	2,655		*5,895*	*3,154*
August			3,161 (e)	6,356 (e)		1,864 (e)		2,660		*6,032* (e)	*2,949* (e)
September			3,246 (e)	6,287 (e)				2,770			*3,108* (e)
% change latest three months											
On previous three months	+ 5.3	+17.7	+12.8	+15.9	+5.8	+37.3	+9.9	+5.3	+12.7	*+6.7*	*+5.2*
On a year earlier	+42.1	+44.3	+51.7	+65.6	+27.7	+31.1	+52.6	+50.0	+32.8	*+44.6*	*+26.9*

[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade.
* All values are expressed in US dollars, making use of IMF parity rates as quoted in 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.
(e) estimated.
Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade and Industry
All others: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.

TABLE 4. IMPORTS (cif) Special trade[1], seasonally adjusted

US$ million*

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark[2]	France	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom[2]	EEC	*United States*[2,3]	*Japan*[2]
1968	8,304	3,216	13,980	20,148	1,176	10,248	9,288	18,960	85,320	*33,108*	*12,984*
1969	9,984	3,804	17,388	24,924	1,416	12,444	10,992	19,956	100,908	*36,048*	*15,024*
1970	11,352	4,380	19,116	29,808	1,572	14,940	13,392	21,720	116,280	*39,960*	*18,876*
1971	12,390	4,476	21,261	34,356	1,838	16,026	15,159	23,897	129,403	*45,633*	*19,716*
1972	14,903	4,971	26,665	39,783	2,113	19,284	17,142	27,831	152,692	*55,800*	*23,463*
1971 1st quarter	2,952	1,101	4,971	8,091	486	4,020	3,615	5,702	30,938	*10,815*	*4,920*
2nd quarter	3,033	1,104	5,145	8,391	435	3,825	3,660	5,904	31,497	*11,556*	*4,938*
3rd quarter	3,102	1,110	5,502	8,811	450	3,993	3,882	5,952	32,802	*12,057*	*4,722*
4th quarter	3,303	1,161	5,643	9,063	463	4,188	4,002	6,339	34,161	*11,205*	*5,136*
1972 1st quarter	3,573	1,185	6,354	9,435	495	4,458	4,095	6,848	36,443	*13,455*	*5,400*
2nd quarter	3,630	1,136	6,454	9,997	511	4,610	4,234	6,954	37,526	*13,200*	*5,456*
3rd quarter	3,721	1,301	6,606	9,836	511	4,895	4,233	6,530	37,633	*14,056*	*5,955*
4th quarter	3,979	1,349	7,251	10,515	596	5,321	4,580	7,499	41,090	*15,089*	*6,652*
1973 1st quarter	4,704	1,570	7,922	1,845	618	5,355	5,416	8,242	45,672	*16,173*	*7,355*
2nd quarter	5,159 (e)	1,753	9,004	13,168	657	6,700	5,627	9,401	51,447 (e)	*16,587*	*9,269*
3rd quarter			10,234 (e)	14,475 (e)							*9,993* (e)
1972 August	1,286	420	2,166	3,429	154	1,656	1,448	1,889	12,448	*4,657*	*2,119*
September	1,298	436	2,316	3,346	191	1,623	1,413	2,654	13,277	*4,776*	*2,069*
October	1,281	453	2,340	3,471	192	1,723	1,543	2,554	13,557	*4,805*	*2,091*
November	1,365	474	2,336	3,554	188	1,527	1,536	2,509	13,489	*5,123*	*2,225*
December	1,333	422	2,575	3,490	216	2,071	1,501	2,436	14,044	*5,161*	*2,336*
1973 January	1,543	546	2,515	3,704	196	1,675	1,732	2,573	14,484	*5,260*	*2,254*
February	1,555	506	2,649	4,144	207	2,124	1,823	2,674	15,682	*5,512*	*2,445*
March	1,606	518	2,758	3,997	215	1,556	1,861	2,995	15,506	*5,401*	*2,656*
April	1,639	503	2,662	4,031	209	1,906	1,878	2,876	15,704	*5,273*	*2,881*
May	1,791	620	3,102	4,514	214	2,190	1,892	3,245	17,568	*5,580*	*3,098*
June	1,729 (e)	630	3,240	4,623	234	2,604	1,857	3,280	18,175 (e)	*5,734*	*3,290*
July	1,856 (e)	676	3,539	4,853	263	2,331 (e)	2,375	3,280		*5,767*	*3,244*
August		690 (e)	3,344 (e)	4,855 (e)		2,568 (e)		3,448		*6,026* (e)	*3,528* (e)
September			3,351 (e)	4,767 (e)				3,485			*3,221* (e)
%change latest three months											
On previous three months	+12.0	+21.6	+13.7	+9.9	+12.7	+32.7	+10.7	+8.6	+12.6	*+7.8*	*+7.8*
On a year earlier	+49.7	+59.9	+54.9	+47.2	+37.8	+56.7	+48.7	+56.4	+37.1	*+27.8*	*+67.8*

[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade. [3] *f.o.b.*
* All values are expressed in US dollars with the use of IMF parity rates as quoted in 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.
(e) estimated. Source: United Kingdom; Department of Trade and Industry. All others: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 5. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS ON CURRENT ACCOUNT

US$ million (unadjusted)

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark	France	German F.R.	Ireland	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom	*United States*	*Japan*
1968	28	−216	−1,089	2,726	− 62	2,627	65	−682	*− 444*	*1,048*
1969	74	−410	−1,818	1,609	−191	2,339	31	1,068	*−1,049*	*2,119*
1970	748	−539	− 152	730	−188	761	−474	1,661	*415*	*1,970*
1971	874	−449	527	175	420	1,785	−172	2,588	*−2,789*	*5,797*
1972	1,113		273	398		1,451	1,051	221	*−8,354*	*6,656*
1971 1st quarter	156	−194	− 36	210		−125	−153	154	*677*	*434*
2nd quarter	232	−127	125	− 68		245	−175	833	*− 689*	*1,262*
3rd quarter	189	− 31	13	−232		1,158	50	900	*−2,191*	*2,100*
4th quarter	297	− 97	425	265		507	106	701	*− 586*	*2,001*
1972 1st quarter	279	− 44	− 314	— 52		606	5	− 73	*−1,852*	*959*
2nd quarter	215	49	455	−125		699	267	476	*−2,473*	*1,225*
3rd quarter	235	− 44	− 3	−485		577	382	−355	*−3,331*	*2,091*
4th quarter	384	− 51	135	1,059		—431	397	173	*− 698*	*2,381*
1973 1st quarter	354	—142		207				−837	*− 80*	*514*
2nd quarter								−420		*−372*

Source: UK: Central Statistical Office. All others: IMF International Financial Statistics

TABLE 6. EXPORT UNIT VALUES OF MANUFACTURES

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg		France		German F.R.		Italy		Nether-lands		United Kingdom		*United States*	*Japan*	
	US$	Bfrs.	US$	frs.	US$	D.M.	US$	lire	US$	Gdrs.	US$	£	US$	US$	Yen
1968	91	91	96	85	88	96	92	92	95	95	90	90	*91*	*90*	*90*
1969	95	95	97	90	92	93	95	95	97	97	93	93	*95*	*95*	*95*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*	*100*
1971	101	98	106	106	108	103	106	105			110	109	*102*	*105*	*102*
1972			116	107							121	117	*105*	*118*	*101*
1971 1st quarter	97	97	103	103	101	101	104	104			105	105	*103*	*101*	*101*
2nd quarter	98	98	104	104	104	102	105	105			108	108	*102*	*104*	*104*
3rd quarter	101	98	106	106	111	104	106	105			112	111	*101*	*106*	*105*
4th quarter	108 (e)	100 (e)	109	109	115	104	109	106			117	112	*103*	*109*	*99*
1972 1st quarter	113	100	114	105	118	104	114	107			123	114	*104*	*113*	*97*
2nd quarter			114	105	118	104	114	107			125	116	*105*	*118*	*101*
3rd quarter			117	108	122	107	116	108			120	118	*104*	*120*	*103*
4th quarter			118	109	119	105	116	108			117	119	*106*	*122*	*104*
1973 1st quarter											122 (e)	121 (e)	*107*		
											132 (e)	125 (e)	*110*		
% change latest 3 months:															
On previous 3 months	+ 4.6	Nil	+0.9	−0.9	−2.5	−1.9	Nil	Nil			+8.2	+3.3	*+2.8*	*+ 1.7*	*+1.0*
On a year earlier	+16.5	+3.1	+8.3	Nil	+3.5	+1.0	+6.4	+1.9			+5.6	+7.8	*+4.8*	*+11.9*	*+5.1*

(e) estimated. Source: Dollar value: 'United Nations Monthly Bulletin'. National currency: Dollar values converted at OECD exchange rates as quoted in 'Series A

TABLE 7. CONSUMER PRICES
All goods and services

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium[1]	Luxembourg[1]	Denmark	France[2]	German F.R.	Ireland	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom	*United States*	*Japan*[2]
1968	92	93	91	89	93	86	93	89	90	*90*	*88*
1969	96	96	94	95	96	92	95	96	94	*94*	*93*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	104	105	106	105	105	109	105	108	109	*104*	*106*
1972	110	110	113	112	111	118	111	116	117	*108*	*111*
1971 1st quarter	102	103	103	103	103	105	103	104	106	*103*	*104*
2nd quarter	104	104	105	105	105	108	104	107	109	*104*	*106*
3rd quarter	105	105	107	106	106	110	105	108	111	*105*	*107*
4th quarter	106	107	108	108	107	112	107	110	112	*106*	*108*
1972 1st quarter	108	108	110	109	109	115	108	113	114	*106*	*108*
2nd quarter	109	109	112	110	110	117	109	115	116	*107*	*111*
3rd quarter	111	111	114	113	112	120	111	116	118	*108*	*111*
4th quarter	113	113	116	115	114	122	114	119	121	*109*	*113*
1973 1st quarter	115	114	118	116	116	126	117	121	123	*111*	*116*
2nd quarter	117	117	122	118	119	130	122	125	127	*113*	*123*
3rd quarter	118 (e)				120 (e)				129	*116*	*126*
1972 August	111	111	113	112	111	120	111	116	118	*108*	*112*
September	111	112	114	113	113		112	117	119	*109*	*112*
October	112	112	115	114	113		114	119	120	*109*	*113*
November	113	113	116	115	114	122	114	119	121	*109*	*112*
December	114	113	117	115	114		115	120	121	*109*	*113*
1973 January	115	114	117	115	116		116	121	122	*110*	*114*
February	115	114	118	116	116	126	117	121	123	*111*	*115*
March	116	115	119	116	117		119	122	124	*112*	*118*
April	116	116	120	117	118		120	124	126	*112*	*121*
May	117	117	122	118	119	130	122	125	127	*113*	*123*
June	117	117	123	119	120		123	125	128	*114*	*123*
July	118	117	124	120	120		124	125	128	*114*	*124*
August	118	117	124	121	119	133	124	126	129	*116*	*125*
September	119 (e)				120 (e)				130 (e)	*118* (e)	*129* (e)
% change latest three months:											
On previous three months	+1.4	+0.9	+2.8	+2.6	+0.5	+ 2.3	+ 2.8	+1.3	+1.6	*+2.7*	*+ 2.9*
On a year earlier	+6.9	+5.7	+9.4	+7.5	+7.1	+10.8	+11.7	+8.4	+9.3	*+7.1*	*+12.7*

[1]Excluding rent. [2]Change of basis during period. (e) estimated.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 8. VALUE OF RETAIL SALES
Current prices, seasonally adjusted

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium[1]/ Luxembourg	Denmark	France[2]	German F.R.[3]	Ireland[4]	Italy[1]	Netherlands	Great Britain[5]	*United States*	*Japan*
1968	83	82	88	82	83	84	80	89	*92*	*80*
1969	90	90	97	90	91	90	89	93	*95*	*89*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	107	108	104	111	111	108	109	109	*109*	*110*
1972	122	119	109	120	125	119	119	122	*119*	*118*
1971 1st quarter	101	103	101	108	108	105	104	103	*105*	*105*
2nd quarter	105	107	103	110	110	106	108	107	*108*	*107*
3rd quarter	111	109	104	112	111	108	110	111	*110*	*112*
4th quarter	111	112	106	113	114	111	114	114	*112*	*113*
1972 1st quarter	115	114	106	117	119	113	114	115	*114*	*111*
2nd quarter	121	117	108	118	122	112	118	118	*117*	*114*
3rd quarter	127	123	111	122	126	121	120	124	*120*	*120*
4th quarter	123	123	111	122	132	126	123	129	*125*	*124*
1973 1st quarter	131	128	112	131	142	131	126	135	*132*	*135*
2nd quarter		128	115	130	148			132	*132*	*139*
1972 August	125	123	112	126	126	121	124	124	*121*	*120*
September	134	124	112	122	127	128	122	124	*121*	*121*
October	119	123	114	125	138	121	123	127	*125*	*122*
November	120	123	108	120	128	126	124	128	*124*	*125*
December	128	121	110	122	129	133	121	131	*126*	*126*
1973 January	125	129	112	129	138	122	124	130	*130*	*131*
February	134	128	112	134	145	133	126	135	*132*	*134*
March	133	126	111	128	143	139	124	139	*134*	*139*
April	130	128	111	129	142	133	125	129	*132*	*138*
May	134	126	119	130	148	136	130	130	*133*	*139*
June		131	115	130	153			135	*132*	*142*
July		133	114	129				138	*136*	
August			113					139	*136*	
% change latest three months:										
On previous three months	+ 2.6	+2.1	+0.3	−0.5	+ 4.0	+ 5.2	+2.2	+ 3.5	*+ 1.4*	*+ 3.7*
On a year earlier	+13.1	+9.9	+2.1	+9.0	+20.7	+18.6	+8.6	+12.3	*+12.9*	*+22.5*

[1]Department stores. [2]Department and chainstores. [3]Excluding West Berlin. [4]Average weekly sales. [5]Excluding motor vehicles.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.

TABLE 9. EARNINGS/WAGES PER HEAD IN MANUFACTURING — Indices 1970=100

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark[1, 2]	France[3]	German F.R.[7, †]	Ireland[3]	Italy[3]	Netherlands[4]	United Kingdom†	*United States*[5]	*Japan*[6] †
1968	84	81	82	79	76	78	82	81	*90*	*73*
1969	92	90	91	87	86	83	90	89	*95*	*85*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	111	115	110	111	116	113	112	111	*106*	*114*
1972	127	129	120	121	133	124	126	126	*113*	*131*
1971 1st quarter	107	108	104	108	110	109	107	108	*104*	*108*
2nd quarter	110	114	107	109	114	111	110	111	*106*	*111*
3rd quarter	112	117	110	113	118	114	114	112	*106*	*116*
4th quarter	115	121	113	112	122	116	116	115	*108*	*117*
1972 1st quarter	122	123	115	116	127	119	122	121	*111*	*123*
2nd quarter	124	128	118	120	131	121	124	124	*112*	*129*
3rd quarter	129	130	121	122	135	126	128	127	*113*	*131*
4th quarter	132	135	126	126	140	130	129	132	*116*	*138*
1973 1st quarter	132	137		130	145	137 (e)	135	134	*118*	*145*
2nd quarter				135		150 (e)	137	139	*120*	*155*
% change latest three months:										
On previous three months	Nil	+ 1.5	+ 4.1	+ 3.5	+ 3.6	+ 9.5	+ 1.5	+ 3.7	*+1.7*	*+ 7.3*
On a year earlier	+8.2	+11.4	+11.5	+12.5	+14.2	+24.0	+10.5	+12.1	*+7.1*	*+20.5*

+ Seasonally adjusted.
[1]Earnings in industry and construction. [2]Including bonuses. [3]Earnings. [4]Hourly earnings industry: males. [5]Gross hourly earnings per productive worker.
[6]Monthly earnings in manufacturing: regular workers. [7]Wages and salaries per employed person in industry, excluding construction, public gas and electricity undertakings.
[8]Hourly-rates times average daily hours worked.
Source: All countries 'OECD Main Economic Indicators', except German Federal Republic ('Monatsberichte der Deutschen Bundesbank', Reihe 4), Italy ('I.L.O. Yearbook' and 'M.E.I.') and United Kingdom ('Department of Employment Gazette').

Customs notices of interest to exporters

THE following Public Notices issued by HM Customs and Excise relate to various aspects of export procedure. Copies of these Notices may be obtained from the local Officer of Customs and Excise, whose address appears in the telephone directory and to whom all inquiries should be addressed, or from the Secretary, HM Customs and Excise, 39-41 Mark Lane, London, EC3R 7HE.

GENERAL NOTICES

17 (May 1973) Arrangements for preferential trade between the Channel Islands and the United Kingdom.

49 Temporary importations: international co-operation.

104 Temporary importations and exportations under ATA and ECS Carnets.

112 Authorised hours for Customs work at ports, airports and in long rooms and charges for attendance given at the request of merchants.

112A Charges for attendance given at private premises at the request of merchants.

118 Samples imported for promoting export trade.

207 Re-imported goods: relief from Customs duty and Value Added Tax.

210 Temporary importation of films and similar goods for copying, printing, etc., to fulfil export orders.

220 Export Reliefs and the Common Market: Preliminary Notice.

221 Process Inwards Relief and Pre-financing of export refunds on products for process.

223 Export relief on goods exported in the same state as at import ('Same state section 7 relief').

240 Compensatory Levy and the 'Holiday Period' throughout 1973.

275 Documentation of Exports for Statistical Purposes.

290 Export of personal and household effects.

300 Export reliefs scheduling scheme.

300A Export reliefs scheduling scheme, supplementary particulars.

467 The New Customs Tariff and Overseas Trade Classification.

703 VAT—Exports.

704 VAT—Retail Export Schemes.

705 VAT—Tax free sales of motor vehicles to tourists, etc.

750 Community transit—general.

750A Community transit—list of Offices of Departure, Transit and Destination and Guarantee Offices in the United Kingdom, etc.

751 Notes on completing Community transit forms T1, T2 and T3.

752 Free circulation of goods in the European Communities.

753 Community transit—the simplified procedure for goods carried by rail.

755 Community transit—special control procedures.

800 EEC Common Agricultural Policy: Customs procedures in respect of export refunds and export licences.

810 EEC Preferences—Free Trade Agreement between the EEC and the EFTA countries.

815 (June 1973) EEC Preferences—Morocco

817 (June 1973) EEC Preferences—Tunisia

818 (June 1973) EEC Preferences—Egypt

819 (May 1973) EEC Preferences—Cyprus

820 (July 1973) EEC Preferences—Lebanon

821 EEC Preferences—simplified procedure for sending evidence to EEC customers about the origin of goods.

830 Arrangements between Denmark and United Kingdom.

DRAWBACK

7 Drawback on mixed or blended beers when exported or deposited in bonded warehouse.

132 Sugar: all matters relating to the importation, warehousing and export of sugar and sugar goods, and to the use of surcharge-free sugar for certain purposes.

132A Sugar: cessation of Import Duties and Imposition of Levies under the Common Agricultural Policy of the EEC and the Sugar Board Charge.

172 Hydrocarbon Oils: drawback of duty.

224 The examination of bottled beer, exported on drawback, at the premises of a licensed brewer for sale, or beer dealer, as an alternative to examination on the quay.

291 Claims for drawback on goods exported where there has been a variation in the duty rate.

372 Notice to exporters and other traders regarding goods exported, shipped as stores or deposited in bonded warehouse on drawback; authorisation of signatories to drawback claims.

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